REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 16, 2007. Claims 1-24 and 38 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 13, and 24 are in independent form. Claims 41, 44 and 45 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 1, 13, 22 and 24 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention. Favorable reconsideration is requested. The canceled claims will not be further addressed herein.

An Information Disclosure Statement and a corresponding Form PTO-1449 was filed on August 11, 2006, as evidenced by the returned receipt postcard bearing the stamp of the Patent and Trademark Office, a copy of which is attached hereto. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to return an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449, indicating the reference cited thereon was considered.

Claim 1 was objected to on the grounds noted in the Office Action. Applicant has carefully reviewed and amended Claim 1 to replace "fist" with --first--, as suggested in the Office Action, and, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, 15, 18, 20 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Application Publication Patent No. 2001/0032218 (Huang).

Claims 2, 4-6, 8, 10-12, 14, 16-17, 19, 21-23 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,351,317 (Sasaki et al.).

As shown above, Applicant has amended independent Claims 1, 13 and 24 in terms that more clearly define what they regard as their invention. Applicant submits that these

amended independent claims, together with the remaining claims dependent thereon, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 is directed to a printing apparatus including: (1) storage means for storing document data received via a network and described in a predetermined structured description language; (2) analysis means for analyzing the document data stored by the storage means and recognizing font sizes contained in the document data, and for recognizing characters contained in the document data to which the font sizes are applied; (3) instruction input means for, when providing a print instruction, entering, via an operation panel of the printing apparatus, a first font size selected from among a smallest size, a most frequently used size and all sizes, and a second font size to be used for formatting the document data for printing on at least one print page, the second font size being different from the first font size; (4) discrimination means for discriminating whether the first font size entered by the instruction input means indicates the smallest size, the most frequently used size or the all sizes; (5) scaling means for scaling all the characters contained in the document data (a) such that a smallest font size in the document data becomes equal to the second font size entered by said instruction input means, if the discrimination means discriminates that the first font size indicates the smallest size, (b) such that a most frequently used font size in the document data becomes equal to the entered second font size, if the discrimination means discriminates that the first font size indicates the most frequently used size, and (c) such that all font sizes in the document become equal to the entered second font size, if the discrimination means discriminates that the first font size indicates the all sizes; (6) image forming means for executing an image forming process such that data representing the character recognized by the analysis means is outputted for printing on the at

least one print page on which contents of the document data are laid out in accordance with the scaling by said scaling means; and (7) printing means for printing data based on print data formed in the image forming process executed by the image forming means. The document data does not include a concept of page.

Among other notable features of Claim 1 is a printing apparatus including (1) instruction input means for, when providing a print instruction, entering, via an operation panel of the printing apparatus, a first font size selected from among a smallest size, a most frequently used size and all sizes, and a second font size to be used for formatting the document data for printing on at least one print page, the second font size being different from the first font size; (2) discrimination means for discriminating whether the first font size entered by the instruction input means indicates the smallest size, the most frequently used size or the all sizes; (3) scaling means for scaling all the characters contained in the document data (a) such that a smallest font size in the document data becomes equal to the second font size entered by said instruction input means, if the discrimination means discriminates that the first font size indicates the smallest size, (b) such that a most frequently used font size in the document data becomes equal to the entered second font size, if the discrimination means discriminates that the first font size indicates the most frequently used size, and (c) such that all font sizes in the document become equal to the entered second font size, if the discrimination means discriminates that the first font size indicates the all sizes; and (4) image forming means for executing an image forming process such that data representing the character recognized by the analysis means is outputted for printing on the at least one print page on which contents of the document data are laid out in accordance with the scaling by said scaling means.

Huang relates to a method for producing structured documents with user-defined document type definitions (DTDs) and providing a document conversion process for converting an unstructured document into a metafile and modifying the metafile in accordance with received document type definitions (paragraphs [0003], [0011], and [0013]). Huang discusses a DTD file, and generating image data of a first font size designated by the DTD file. However, Huang relates to a personal computer having an operational unit, not a printing apparatus with an instruction input means, as recited in Claim 1. In addition, Huang is silent as to a first size selected from a smallest size, a most frequently used size and all sizes, and a second font size. Accordingly, Applicants have found nothing in Huang that would teach or suggest "instruction input means for, when providing a print instruction, entering, via an operation panel of said printing apparatus, a first font size selected from among a smallest size, a most frequently used size and all sizes, and a second font size to be used for formatting the document data for printing on at least one print page, the second font size being different from the first font size," "discrimination means for discriminating whether the first font size entered by said instruction input means indicates the smallest size, the most frequently used size or the all sizes," "scaling means for scaling all the characters contained in the document data (a) such that a smallest font size in the document data becomes equal to the second font size entered by said instruction input means, if said discrimination means discriminates that the first font size indicates the smallest size, (b) such that a most frequently used font size in the document data becomes equal to the entered second font size, if said discrimination means discriminates that the first font size indicates the most frequently used size, and (c) such that all font sizes in the document become equal to the entered second font size, if said discrimination means discriminates that the first font

size indicates the all sizes" and "image forming means for executing an image forming process such that data representing the character recognized by said analysis means is outputted for printing on the at least one print page on which contents of the document data are laid out in accordance with the scaling by said scaling means," as recited in Claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is not anticipated by Huang.

A review of the other art, including Sasaki, of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant's opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as a reference against Claim 1.

Independent Claims 13 and 24 are method and computer memory medium claims, respectively corresponding to apparatus Claim 1, and are believed to be patentable over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with Claim 1.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

This Amendment After Final Action is believed clearly to place this application in condition for allowance and, therefore, its entry is believed proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment After Final Action, as an earnest effort to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that issues remain outstanding, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned attorney in an effort to resolve such issues and advance the case

to issue.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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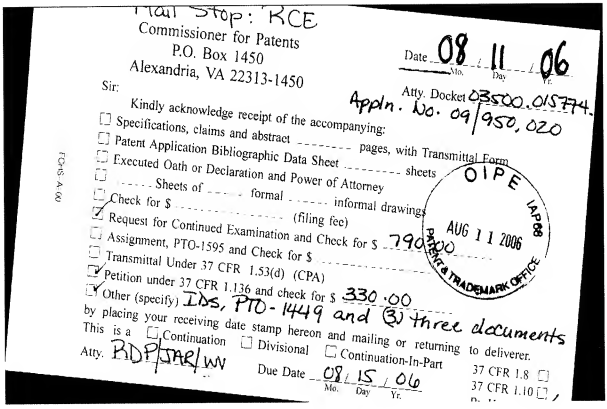

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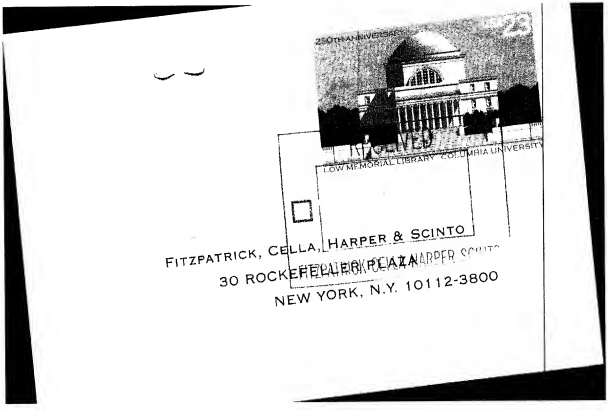
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